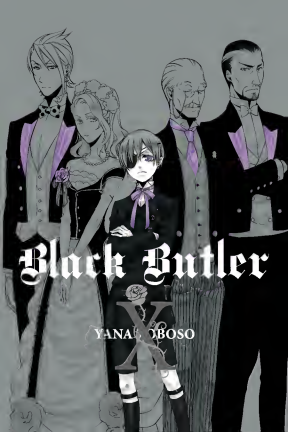




Black Butler

YANA TOBOSO





Black Butler

XV
YANA TOSHIRO



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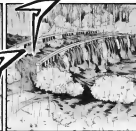
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The Butler, Contemplative

CHAPTER 43

In the morning The Butler, Stalwart









A
NEEDLE?

PERHAPS
HE WAS
INJECTED
WITH
POISON
FROM A
NEEDLE OR
THE LIKE.



HE
HAS WHAT
APPEARS
TO BE
PUNCTURE
WOUNDS
ON THE
NECK!!



DON'T
RUMMAGE
AROUND
SOMEONE
ELSE'S
QUARTERS
AS YOU
PLEASE!!

OH,
I SEE!!
LORD
EARL LIVES
IN A MOST
WONDERFUL
ROOM!



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LISTEN
WHEN I'M
TALKING
TO YOU!!

MM
MM

YOU'VE
HELD ON
TO THE
DRESS
I GAVE
YOU!!!

HAVE
YOU
WORK
IT?



BITE
MARKS
ON THE
NECK...
BRINGS
TO MIND
CARMILLA,
DOESN'T
IT?

THEY
COULD
ALSO
BE SAID TO
RESEMBLE
THE TOOTH
MARKS
OF SOME
BEAST OR
OTHER...

BY THAT,
ARE YOU
REFERING
TO LE FANL'S
VAMPIRIC
CARMILLA?

YES.

ARE YOU
FAMILIAR
WITH IT?



WHICH
WOULD
MEAN
THAT
MISTER
PHELPS
DIED
AROUND
2:38?

YES.

HE LIKELY
DROPPED IT
AMIDST HIS
THROES OF
AGONY...
IT'S
BROKEN.

THAT
WOULD
BE THE
CLOCK
I KEPT
AT MY
BEDSIDE.

...GLITE
RIGHT.

TANAKA,
SHOW OUR
GUESTS
TO THE
DRAWING
ROOM.

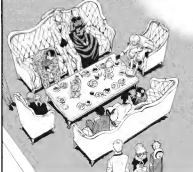
~~~~~

VERY  
GOOD,  
SIR.

OVER A  
NICE CUP  
OF TEA,  
PERHAPS?

GAY!!

INSTEAD  
OF STANDING  
HERE HOLDING  
COURT, WHY  
DON'T WE GO  
SIT DOWN AND  
THINK THE  
SITUATION  
THROUGH?





THUS,  
IT HOLDS  
TRUE THAT  
BOTH I AND  
THE EARL  
HAVE AN  
ALIBI, AS  
WE WERE  
CHAINED  
TOGETHER  
TILL  
MORNING.



GOING BY  
THE STATE  
OF THE  
CORPSES, A  
FEW HOURS  
HAD ELAPSED  
FROM THE  
TIME THE  
TWO WERE  
KILLED.



WELL,  
WHO SAW  
MASTER  
BUTLER  
LAST?



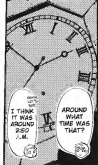
AND  
THEN  
MISTER  
PHELPS  
WAS  
ABDUCTED  
AROUND  
2:30 A.M.,  
HMM...

THE  
PROFESSOR  
AND I WERE  
SHACKLED  
AND GOT  
INTO BED  
AROUND 2 A.M.  
SEBASTIAN  
MENTIONED  
THAT HE  
HAD  
ALREADY  
TAKEN  
MISTER  
PHELPS  
THROUGH  
TO MY  
BEDROOM.



THE  
TWO OF  
US MOST  
LIKELY,  
BUT...

...THE  
ROOM WAS  
DARK AND  
THE CLOCK  
FAR AWAY,  
SO I CAN'T  
BE CERTAIN  
OF THE  
EXACT  
TIME...





HE  
MIGHT'VE  
SENT THAT  
LETTER TO THE  
POLICE!

EVEN  
THE  
PHONE  
LINES  
ARE  
OUT  
DUE TO  
THIS  
STORM,  
AFTER  
ALL...



WHAT  
DID THE  
LETTER  
SAY?

I WAS  
NOT PRIVY  
TO ITS  
CONTENTS,  
NO, SIR.



AN  
OWL?

AN OWL,  
UNLIKE A  
PIGION,  
CAN FLY  
EVEN IN  
A STORM.  
SHREWD  
AS USUAL,  
THAT GUY.



THE  
ONLY TWO  
WHO COULD  
HAVE CREATED  
A LOCKED ROOM  
SCENARIO IN THE  
EARL'S QUARTERS  
WERE MASTER  
PHELPS, WHO  
WAS WITHIN, AND  
SEBASTIAN, WHO  
POSSESSED  
THE KEY TO SAID  
ROOM...

IN THAT  
CASE, THE  
THEORY THAT  
THE CULPRIT  
IS SEBASTIAN  
IS MOST  
PLAUSIBLE...  
HOWEVER...

...SEBASTIAN  
WAS HIMSELF  
MURDERED.



BUT IF  
SEBASTIAN  
WAS KILLED  
LAST, THINGS  
GET COMPLICATED,  
DON'T THEY?



.....  
THAT  
IS POSS-  
IBLE.

THEN THE  
LIKELIHOOD IS  
GREAT OF THE  
PERPETRATOR  
BEING ONE  
WHO WOULD  
PROFIT FROM  
DISPOSING OF  
THEM  
ALL.



SO...  
THE BUTLER  
HAD CONSPIRED  
WITH ANOTHER,  
WITH WHOM  
HE COMMITTED  
THE MURDERS,  
THEN WAS  
HIMSELF KILLED  
TO ENSURE HIS  
GLANCE AFTER  
AN ARGUMENT  
OVER THE  
ILL-GOTTEN  
GAINS OR  
SOMESUCH?



MISTER  
PHELPS IS  
THE SON  
OF THE BLUE  
STAR LINE,  
A LEADER IN  
INTEGRATED  
MARITIME  
TRANSPORT.

HE LACKED  
PRESENCE,  
BUT HE WAS  
CAPABLE  
ENOUGH TO  
BE PUT IN  
CHARGE OF  
THE TRADE  
DIVISION AND  
HAD RECENTLY  
EXPANDED THE  
BUSINESS INTO  
THE ASIAN  
SPHERE.



QUITE  
SO, QUITE  
SO! MONEY  
MAKES THE  
WORLD GO  
ROUND,  
AFTER  
ALL.



END





INDEED  
I DO!



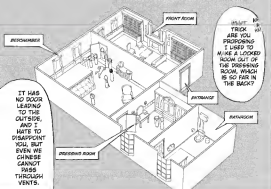
HOWEVER,  
THIS IS AN  
INSTRUMENT  
OF ORIENTAL  
MEDICINE.



OH MY  
WORD!  
DON'T YOU  
THINK YOU'RE  
BEING A BIT  
RASH?

TH-  
THEN  
YOU  
KILLED  
PHELPS  
...!!

YOU WERE  
SNOOPING  
ABOUT THE  
EARL'S BED-  
CHAMBER  
JUST NOW!  
YOU WERE  
DESTROYING  
EVIDENCE,  
WEREN'T  
YOU?



IF WE  
MAKE A  
SIMPLE  
CHART  
OF IT...

WHAT  
IS IT YOU  
MEANT?

# Alibi List

| DEAD                                                                                                  | AM 1:10                                                                                      | AM 2:38                                                                                      | AM 3:50A                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                       | <br>Siemens | <br>Philips | <br>Sebastian |
| Earl<br>Phantomhive  | <input type="radio"/>                                                                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                            |
| Arthur               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                            |
| Earl<br>Greg         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input type="radio"/>                                                                          |
| Mr<br>Woodley        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input type="radio"/>                                                                          |
| Mr<br>Grimsby        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input type="radio"/>                                                                          |
| Ms<br>Irene         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input type="radio"/>                                                                          |
| Lau                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input type="radio"/>                                                                          |
| Pan-<br>Ma         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input type="radio"/>                                                                          |
| Shan               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input type="radio"/>                                                                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                            |
| Mr<br>Furaka       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input type="radio"/>                                                                          |
| Goldroy            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input type="radio"/>                                                                          |
| Finnigan           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input type="radio"/>                                                                          |
| Myo Rin            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                                                          | <input type="radio"/>                                                                          |

...THIS  
IS WHAT  
WE GET.

FINALLY,  
ANYONE  
BUT THE  
EARL AND I  
COULD HAVE  
MURDERED  
SEBASTIAN  
AROUND  
2:50 A.M.

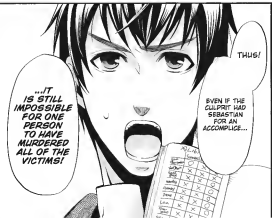
ONLY  
SEBASTIAN  
COULD HAVE  
MURDERED  
MISTER  
PHELPS  
AROUND  
2:38 A.M.

ONLY EARL  
PHANTOMHIVE  
COULD HAVE  
MURDERED  
LORD  
SIEMENS  
AROUND  
1:10 A.M.

...IT  
IS STILL  
IMPOSSIBLE  
FOR ONE  
PERSON  
TO HAVE  
MURDERED  
ALL OF THE  
VICTIMS!

THUS!

EVEN IF THE  
CULPRIT HAD  
SEBASTIAN  
FOR AN  
ACCOMPLICE...



PLURA  
CRISTINO

わ  
わ  
わ

SOD THAT!!  
IT ISN'T BAD  
ENOUGH THAT  
WE'RE LOCKED  
UP IN THIS  
GODFORSAKEN  
PLACE, BUT  
NOW YOU  
HAVE THE GALL  
TO TREAT US  
LIKE COMMON  
CRIMINALS!!

IF ONE PERSON  
COULDN'T HAVE  
DONE IT, THEN  
THE GUESTS  
WHO CAME TO  
THE PARTY AS A  
PAIR MUST BE  
THE GUILTY  
ONES!!

GRIMSBY,  
CALM  
DOWN!

SIMPLE  
OR NOT, I  
COULDN'T  
CARE  
LESS!

I'M  
SICK  
OF  
THIS  
!!

YES, PLEASE  
DO CALM DOWN,  
GENTLEMEN!  
BESIDES, THIS  
ISN'T SO SIMPLE  
A CASE AS TO BE  
SOLVED BY THE  
MERE FACT THAT  
TWO PEOPLE  
WOULD HAVE  
BEEN ABLE TO  
COMMIT THE CR—





**YOU  
CALLED  
US HERE  
WITH THE  
INTEN-  
TION OF  
PUTTING  
AN END  
TO US  
ALL  
ALONG!!**

**YOU  
DOG  
OF THE  
QUEEN!**



I AM  
AFRAID  
I DO NOT  
KNOW TO  
WHAT IT  
IS YOU ARE  
REFERRING,  
BUT PLEASE  
DO COMPOSE  
YOURSELF.



STAYING  
HERE AS  
A GROUP  
WOULD  
BE BEST  
TO AVOID  
RISKING  
SUSPICION  
AS WELL...



PLEASE  
WAIT.

TO  
LEAVE  
IN THIS  
STORM  
WOULD  
BE  
FOLLY!



WHO  
IN THEIR  
RIGHT MIND  
WOULD STAY  
HERE LIKE  
A LAMB TO  
THE SLAUGH-  
TER!?

I'LL  
HAVE  
YOU LET  
ME GO  
NOW!!





HOW  
DARE  
YOU  
TELL  
ME  
WHAT  
TO  
DO  
!!?

MY  
LORD  
!!





GUAH--

...WHO-  
EVER THEY  
MAY BE...

...SHALL  
BY WE  
SERVANTS...

...BE  
SHOWN NO  
MERCY.





YOU WILL  
FOLLOW  
OUR  
INSTRUC-  
TIONS,  
WON'T  
YOU?

MASTER  
BOOK-  
LEAD



—WELL,  
THEN

[illegible]

AS THINGS CURRENTLY STAND, THE PROFESSOR IS THE ONLY ONE AMONG US WHO, WITHOUT A DOUBT, CANNOT BE THE GUILTY.

THUS,  
I BELIEVE  
THE SAFEST  
AND FAIREST  
OPTION IS  
TO HAVE THE  
PROFESSOR  
DECIDE ON  
HOW WE  
SHOULD  
PROCEED.

YES.

M-  
ME!?

FOR MY  
PART, I'VE  
NO DESIRE  
TO LEAVE THE  
PERPETRATORS  
ENDLESSLY  
WANDERING  
ABOUT MY  
MANOR...

OF  
COURSE,  
THE...

M-  
WELL,  
I CAN'T  
SAY I'M  
NOT OF THE  
SAME MIND  
ON THAT  
ACCOUNT, BUT...

...SAME  
GOES  
FOR US...

YEAH?



SO  
WHAT DO  
YOU SAY  
WE HUNT  
DOWN AND  
CORNER THE  
CULPRITS  
AT OUR  
LEISURE?



THAT  
SETTLES  
IT, THEN.



WE HAVE  
NOTHING  
BUT TIME  
UNTIL THE  
STORM  
LETS UP  
ANYHOW.



HMM?

PROFES-  
SOR?

I KNOW I  
SHALL NEVER  
FORGET THAT  
SMILE OF HIS  
FOR AS LONG  
AS I LIVE.



IN THAT  
MAYBE,  
THROUGH  
THE HALLS  
OF WHICH  
A SPIRIT  
CALLED  
A SPIRIT  
WAS FLOWING,  
HE SMILED THE  
INCREDIBLY  
INNOCENT  
SMILE OF  
A CHILD.

FOR LIKE  
THAT OF A  
LITTLE BOY  
DELIGHTED  
IN A GAME,  
IT WAS  
COLD AND  
BEAUTIFUL,  
THE SMILE  
OF AN IMP  
DESCENDING  
FROM THE  
HEAVENS  
HIMSELF.





**Black Butler**

CHAPTER 44

*At noon : The Butler, Wailing*





...WHAT CONCERNS ME THE MOST IS THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE KEY TO THE RAIL'S QUARTERS.

BUT NOW THAT SEBASTIAN HAS BEEN KILLED, CAN IT NOT BE SAID THAT IF ANYONE DOES HAVE THE KEY, THAT PERSON IS THE CULPRIT?

QUITE.

...IF THE KEY HAD PASSED INTO THE HANDS OF ANOTHER, THAT WOULD CHANGE MATTERS.

AS IT STANDS, ONLY SEBASTIAN, WHO WAS IN POSSESSION OF THE KEY, COULD HAVE KILLED MISTER PHELPS, BUT...

TO THAT  
POINT, I  
THINK IT  
BEST THAT  
WE ALWAYS  
CONDUCT  
OURSELVES  
IN GROUPS  
FROM NOW  
ON.

YOU'RE  
RIGHT.



IF HE DOES HAVE IT, CONSIDER THAT THEORY SQUASHED.

THEN WE  
FIRST HAVE  
TO CHECK  
WHETHER  
OR NOT THE  
BUTLER HAS  
THE KEY



2000  
 2001  
 2002

44  
2004-2005

...MISS TRENE AND MASTER GRENBY, IF YOU WOULD PLEASE REMAIN HERE.

— — — — —

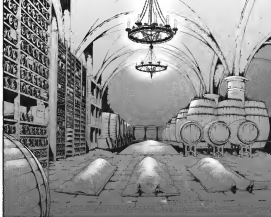
I'LL BE  
FINE HERE,  
ENJOYING  
SOME TEA  
WITH RAIN-  
SLACK

I'VE  
NOTHING  
TO DO  
HERE, SO  
I'LL COME  
WITH—/

HWEN









I'LL GET  
IT'S FROM  
THE RAIN  
LEAKIN' IN  
THROUGH  
THE ROOF.



POOR  
MISTER  
SEBAS-  
TIAN!!  
C'MON,  
LET'S  
MOVE  
HIM!

YES,  
LET'S.  
THE  
WATER  
WILL  
HASTEN  
DECAY,  
AFTER  
ALL.



!?

HE'S  
WET!?



DE...  
CAY...

NOT TO  
MENTION  
UNDRESSING  
HIM IN ORDER  
TO INVESTIGATE  
FURTHER WILL  
BE QUITE  
TROUBLESOME  
SINCE RIGOR  
MORTIS HAS  
SET IN.



PLEASE  
DON'T  
TREAT  
MISTER  
SEBASTIAN  
LIKE A  
THING!!

WHOA!



SO LET'S  
FIRST TURN  
HIM OVER  
AND—

**STOP  
IT!!**



IF  
YOU'RE  
GOING  
TO  
CARRY  
ON LIKE  
THIS,  
GET  
OUT.

YOU'RE  
IN THE  
WAY.



MISTER  
SEBASTIAN  
IS OUR  
DEAR—

FINNY.





THIS IS  
SEBASTIAN'S  
ROOM.



DO  
YOU  
LOT  
HAVE  
ANY  
IDEA  
WHERE  
HE  
MIGHT  
HIDE A  
KEY?



HE WAS  
AN UPPER  
SERVANT.

IT'S  
FAIRLY  
LARGE,  
ISN'T  
IT?

WOULD  
HE TALK  
TOO













...WERE  
OF NO  
INTEREST  
TO ME.  
I COULDN'T  
HAVE CARED  
LESS ABOUT  
SUCH  
THINGS.



...WHAT  
KIND OF  
MASTER  
HE SERVED  
PREVIOUSLY,  
AND WHAT  
HE DID  
FOR SAID  
MASTER...

FROM  
WHENCE HE  
HAILED...



ANYONE  
AT ALL.



SO  
LONG AS  
THEY WERE  
LOYAL TO  
NONE BUT  
ME AND  
DID AS I  
WISHED.

AT  
THAT  
TIME,  
ANYONE  
WOULD  
HAVE  
DONE.



.....



AT  
THAT  
TIME?



IF  
WE'VE NOT  
MANAGED  
TO FIND THE  
KEY AFTER  
ALL THIS  
SEARCHING,  
IT'S LIKELY  
NOT HERE,  
HNT?



MY PUBLIC  
AUTHORITY  
EXCEEDS  
THAT OF THE  
YARD, SO WE  
CAN SIMPLY  
FORCE THEM  
TO SHOW  
US IF THEY  
REFUGE!

C'MONT  
OFF WE  
GO!  
OFF WE  
GO!



THEN  
DOES THAT  
JUST LEAVE  
US WITH  
CHECKING  
EVERYONE'S  
BELONG-  
INGS?

WONT  
EVERY-  
ONE BE  
OUTRIGHT  
AGAINST  
THAT  
IDEA?







I HAD NOT  
HEARD  
THAT YOU  
TWO WERE  
LOVERS,  
SO I WAS  
SURPRISED  
YESTERDAY,  
I WAS!

OH, DO  
FORGIVE  
ME! HE  
HASN'T  
BEEN  
VERY  
OPEN  
ABOUT  
IT, YOU  
SEE.



OH  
NO! I'M  
SUCH A  
SCATTER-  
BRAIN FOR  
LEAVING  
THAT  
OUT...



THE  
ANTI-  
AGING  
REJUVEN  
OF AN  
ACTRESS  
IS NOTHING  
TO WORRY  
HE NOT  
AT ALL  
...

WHAT  
IS THE  
ANTI-  
AGING  
REJUVEN  
OF AN  
ACTRESS  
IS NOTHING  
TO WORRY  
HE NOT  
AT ALL  
...



12  
YOU  
LOOK  
NOTHING  
OF THE  
SORT,  
YOU  
KNOW!

GRIMSBY  
AND I ARE  
TWELVE YEARS  
APART, SO IT  
EMBARRASSED  
ME TO TELL  
PEOPLE ABOUT  
US...



WHAT  
IS THE  
BOTTLE  
HERE?

WHAT  
IS THE  
BOTTLE  
HERE?



GOODNIGHT,  
MISS GRIMSBY,  
YOU MUST HAVE  
SURE TO CLOSE WHAT  
YOU OPEN!





A  
DARK  
RED  
LIQUID  
...!?



EHI?!



BY THAT,  
ARE YOU  
REFERRING  
TO LE  
FAND'S  
SAMPURIC  
CHAMILLAP

THE WINGS  
ON THE NECK  
BAND OF  
THE CHAMILLAP  
PRESENT?



MISS  
KAN-  
MAO!

YOU  
MUST  
NOT  
WEAR  
THAT ON  
YOUR  
HEAD!!

KYAAA!!



NO...  
IS IT  
BLOOD?



AT THIS POINT, WE CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT SEBASTIAN HAD ALREADY HIDDEN IT ELSEWHERE...



SO IN THE END IT WAS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND...



EXCUSE ME!



I MEAN, A KEY'S A SMALL THING, SO IF IT WERE SWEEPED AWAY OR BURIED BECAUSE OF THIS STORM, WE'D HAVE NO HOPE OF FINDING IT.

OR THAT HE THREW IT OUT THE WINDOW.







RETREAT!!

YOU  
CAN'T DO  
NOTHIN'  
IN THIS  
STORM!!



WE'VE  
GOT TO  
LOOK  
FOR IT  
NOW...

THE  
RAIN  
MIGHT  
WASH  
AWAY  
THE  
KEY.



I'LL GO  
LOOK  
IN THE  
GARDEN!

OKAY,  
I'LL GO  
LOOK  
OVER  
THERE!

WAIT,  
WAIT,  
YOU  
TWO!!



**BUT IT  
COULD  
BE!!**

**WE  
DON'T  
EVEN  
KNOW  
IF IT'S  
HERE!!**



**WELL,  
BUT...**

**...IF NOT  
FOR MISTER  
SEBASTIAN,  
WE WOULD  
NEVER  
HAVE BEEN  
ABLE TO  
COME HERE  
TO THE  
MANOR...**

**(BOND  
SHAKLED)**

**THANK  
YOU**



**TURN  
BACK!**

**IT'S  
STILL  
MARCH.  
YOU'RE  
GONNA  
FREEZE  
TO  
DEATH.**



WE HAD  
NOTHING.



AND  
THAT'S  
IT.



I'D  
NEVER  
HAVE  
BEEN  
ABLE  
TO GO  
OUTSIDE  
OR...  
FEEL THE  
RAIN ON  
MY SKIN  
LIKE  
THIS.



NO  
HOME TO  
RETURN  
TO.



NO  
FRIENDS.



NO  
FREEDOM  
...

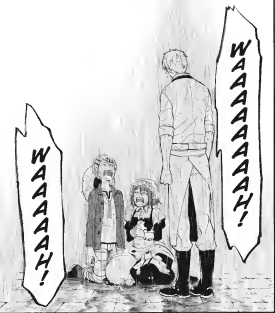


ALL  
THAT WE  
HAVE  
NOW...

EVERY  
LAST  
THING...

...WAS  
GIVEN TO  
US BY THE  
YOUNG  
MASTER  
AND MISTER  
SEBASTIAN.









WE COULDN'T  
DO ANYTHING  
EXCEPT KILL  
FOLKS.



THINK  
BACK TO  
RIGHT AFTER  
WE WERE  
SCRAMBLED  
UP AND  
BROUGHT  
HERE.



AND  
I, WHO  
COULDN'T  
COOK A  
THING, CAN  
AT LEAST  
MANAGE TO  
FRY AN  
EGG.

FINNY  
CAN TELL A  
WEED FROM  
AN HERB.

BUT NOW,  
MEY-RIN  
CAN DO THE  
WASHING  
WITHOUT  
TEARIN'  
STUFF UP.



...WENT  
AND TAUGHT  
US USELESS  
LUMPS ALL  
KINDS OF  
THINGS WITH  
SUCH INTENSE  
PATIENCE  
AND PERSE-  
VERANCE?

SO  
WHY DON'T  
YOU THINK THAT  
SUPERMAN,  
WHO COULD DO  
EVERYTHING BY  
HIMSELF...



...SO  
THERE'S  
ONLY ONE  
THING WE  
OUGHTA  
BE DOIN'  
RIGHT  
NOW,  
YEAH?



JUST  
SO.



HE DID IT  
SO WE COULD  
PROTECT THIS  
MANOR AND THE  
YOUNG MASTER  
IF THE DAY EVER  
CAME WHEN HE  
WASN'T AROUND  
ANYMORE!





COME  
INSIDE.  
I HAVE  
PUT THE  
KETTLE  
ON FOR  
YOU.



OLD MAN  
TANA...



EH?



AND  
WE ALSO  
SEEM TO  
HAVE A  
BIT OF A  
PROBLEM.



WE ARE  
RUNNING  
OUT OF  
FOOD.





IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT A SERVANT OF THE PHANTOMHIVE HOUSE CAN OVERCOME A CRISIS SUCH AS THIS.

THINK.

WHY DO YOU NOT RECALL THAT TURN OF PHRASE OF WHICH HE WAS SO VERY FOND?

HE IS NO LONGER WITH US. YOU MUST NOT DEPEND ON HIM FOREVER.



WELL, BUT HE DIDN'T SAY

WELL, BUT HE DIDN'T SAY

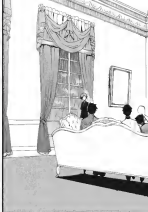
YES, SIR!!



—GAY.



SITTING  
HERE IN  
UTTER  
SILENCE IS  
STUPID  
IN ITSELF.  
HOW ABOUT  
WE PLAY A  
GAME OF  
CARDS OR  
SOMETHING?



BUT  
I'LL BE  
RIGHT  
BACK.

AS LONG  
AS WE DO NOT  
KNOW WHO IS  
BEHIND THESE  
MURDERS, THE  
SOUNDST  
COURSE OF  
ACTION IS TO  
MOVE AS A  
GROUP TO  
AVOID HAVING  
ANY MORE  
VICTIMS.



I  
BROUGHT  
ALONG A  
DECK OF  
CARDS,  
SO I'LL  
GO TO  
MY ROOM  
AND GET  
IT.

THE  
CLERK  
T<sup>h</sup>  
9

PLEASE  
WAIT.  
IF YOU'RE  
GOING, WE  
SHOULD  
ALL GO.



THERE'S NOTHING  
TO IT

I MEANT  
EXACTLY  
WHAT  
I JUST  
SAID.



—WHAT  
DO YOU  
MEAN?



TRUE,  
THAT'S  
BEST  
IF ONE  
OF US  
IS THE  
GUILTY  
PARTY!

IF IT  
IS ONE  
OF US,  
THAT  
IS.



EVEN SO,  
WOULD IT  
NOT BE  
IMPOSSIBLE  
FOR HIM TO  
ENTER A  
LOCKED ROOM  
OR COME IN  
OUT OF THE  
STORM TO  
WANDER  
ABOUT THE  
MANOR  
WITHOUT  
LEAVING  
FOOT-  
PRINTS?



IF THE  
MURDER  
HAD HAPPENED  
AMONG US,  
WHERE ARE  
YOU SAYING  
HE IS?

FOR  
INSTANCE,  
HE ARRIVED  
BEFORE THE  
STORM AND  
IS HIDING  
OUTSIDE...  
—SOME-  
THING LIKE  
THAT?



WHAT  
IF THERE  
EXISTS A  
THIRTEENTH  
PERSON WHO  
CAN MAKE THE  
IMPOSSIBLE  
POSSIBLE?

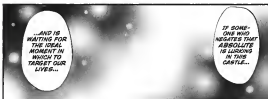


IN THIS  
WORLD, IT'S  
ABSOLUTES  
LIKE  
"NEVER"  
THAT CAN  
NEVER  
BE.



RUBBISH!!  
THAT COULD  
NEVER BE!

NEVER,  
YOU  
SAY?



...AND IS  
WAITING FOR  
THE IDEAL  
MOMENT IN  
WHICH TO  
TARGET OUR  
LIVES...

IF SOME-  
ONE WHO  
NEGATES THAT  
ABSOLUTE  
IS LURKING  
IN THIS  
CASTLE...



...HE MAY  
ALREADY  
BE CLOSER  
THAN WE  
THINK.





THAT  
THIR-  
TEENTH  
GUEST  
WHO  
OUGHT  
NOT TO  
EXIST—





**Black Butler**



CHAPTER 45

*In the afternoon : The Butler, Disturbed*



THAT  
THIRTEENTH  
GUEST WHO  
OUGHT NOT  
TO EXIST...









ARE  
YOU  
ASKING  
FOR MY  
NAME?



YOU'RE  
BACK  
TO THAT  
AGAIN?

SO  
WHO  
ARE  
YOU?



OLD  
MANT?

LORD EARL,  
DO YOU  
KNOW THIS  
OLD MAN?

UH...  
YES,  
I DO.



...EH,  
JEREMY?

LONG  
TIME NO  
SEE...



YOU  
ARE A  
VICAR?



PLEASE  
JUST  
CALL ME  
PLAIN OLD  
JEREMY.

THIS  
IS VICAR  
JEREMY  
RATH-  
BONE.

HE IS A  
POPULAR  
ADVISOR AT  
THE LOCAL  
CHURCH AND  
SOMETHING  
OF A  
CELEBRITY.



THAT  
LOOK OF  
YOURS IS  
TRULY NON-  
SENSICAL...

...  
MISTER  
WOOD-  
LEY.



ONLY THE  
THIRTEENTH  
PERSON,  
WHO HAS  
NO ALIBI TO  
SPEAK OF,  
GODALFYS  
COMMITTED  
THE MUR-  
DERS...

HOW  
CAN YOU  
EXPECT  
ME TO  
BELIEVE  
A SUS-  
PICIOUS  
FELLOW  
LIKE HIM?

ANY WAY  
YOU SLICE  
IT, IT'S  
GOT TO  
BE HIM!!



HOW  
DO YOU  
KNOW MY  
NAME....? !!



LARGE  
DIAMONDS  
OF THAT  
SIZE ARE  
MINED IN  
SOUTH  
AFRICA.

AND THE  
UNIQUE  
ROUND  
BRILLIANT-  
CUT OF THOSE  
DIAMONDS IS  
POSSIBLE ONLY  
WITH THE LATEST  
POLISHING  
RECENTLY  
DEVELOPED  
BY THE  
WOODLEY  
COMPANY.

I HAVE ALSO  
HEARD THAT  
DANIEL ANDERSON,  
A LONDON JEWELER,  
WAS AGGRESSIVELY  
PROMOTING THEM  
TO SOCIETY LADIES  
AS THE RAREST OF  
GENS, STILL NOT  
WIDELY AVAILABLE  
ON THE MARKET,  
YOU SEE.



OH,  
IT'S GLITE  
OBVIOUS  
FROM THE  
RINGS  
ADORNING  
YOUR  
FINGERS.



WAS I  
WRONG?

URK  
...



...RATHER,  
SINCE  
WHEN?  
AND WHY  
ARE YOU  
HERE?

THAT  
ASIDE,  
HOW  
IN THE  
WORLD  
DID YOU...

...YOU,  
MISTER  
WOODLEY.



THUS,  
IF AMONG  
THE GUESTS  
AT EARL  
PHANTOMHIVE'S  
DINNER PARTY,  
THERE IS ONE  
INDIVIDUAL  
WEARING SUCH  
RARE RINGS, HE  
IS MOST LIKELY  
TO BE THE  
PRESIDENT OF  
THE WOODLEY  
COMPANY...



YOU  
THERE.  
OPEN  
MY BAG.  
IF YOU  
WOULD.



FEAR ME.  
QUESTIONS,  
QUESTIONS.



THAT IS  
MISTER  
SEBAS-  
TIAN'S  
OWL!!

W H O A ! ?



E-  
VEN IF  
IT WAS  
ACTING  
UP,  
THAT'S  
MUCH  
TOO  
CRUEL!!

NO, IT WAS  
ACTING UP, SO  
I TRANQUILISED  
IT FOR A BRIEF  
SPELL. IT WILL  
WAKE UP  
MOMENTARILY.

I-IS IT  
DEAD,  
IS IT?





A TICKET...  
I THINK?  
FROM THE  
THEATRE...



THE LADY OF  
THE LAKE IS  
INDEED BEING  
PERFORMED  
AT LONDON'S  
LYCEUM  
NOW.



THE  
LADY OF  
THE LAKE  
AT THE  
LYCEUM  
THEATRE!



AND  
THE  
DATE  
ON  
IT?

YES-  
TER-  
DAY...THE  
TICKET WAS  
PURCHASED  
AT THE DOOR  
FOR THE  
EVENING PER-  
FORMANCE ON  
MARCH THE  
TWELFTH.

THE  
LOCATION  
AND PRO-  
GRAMME  
HERE...  
UM...  
THE...  
EL...AY...  
DEE...



MOROVER, THE STREETS ARE A VERITABLE SLUICER OF MAD, WHAT WITH ALL THE RAIN, SO IT WOULD HAVE TAKEN NEARLY TWICE AS LONG AS USUAL.

EVEN IF I'D CAUGHT A HANSON CAB AND SLIPPED THE DRIVER A SOVEREIGN TO RUSH OVER HERE, IT WOULD HAVE TAKEN OVER TWO HOURS TO REACH THIS MANOR.

THE PERFORMANCE ENDED WELL PAST TEN AT NIGHT.

YES. LAST NIGHT, I WENT TO THE LYCEUM THEATRE IN LONDON.



I SET THE RIVER'S OVERFLOWIN' ITS BANKS WITH THE STORM, SO THERE'S NO WAY A CAB COULDA MADE IT OVER THE BRIDGE!



YOU CAME BY HANSON IN THIS DOWN-POUR?



THERE ARE AS MANY MEANS TO AN END AS THERE ARE STARS IN THE SKY. HOWEVER, THE FACT REMAINS THAT THERE EXISTS BUT ONE TRUTH.

ON FOOT, BY SWIMMING... THOUGH TO BE FAIR, THEY ARE NONE OF THEM WAYS I WOULD RECOMMEND TO AVERAGE FOLK.

OF COURSE THERE ARE ANY NUMBER OF OTHER WAYS TO GET HERE.



...IS THIS  
TRUTH OF  
WHICH YOU  
SPEAK?

AND SINCE  
YOU WERE IN  
LONDON LAST  
NIGHT, YOU  
COULD NOT  
HAVE BEEN  
INVOLVED  
WITH THE  
MURDERS...



IT'S A  
SIMPLE  
FEAT TO  
TELL A  
PERSON'S  
OCCUPATION  
AND SUCH  
FROM THEIR  
CLOTHING  
AND  
HABITS.



WHAT?!



LEAVE  
IT TO THE  
MASTERLY  
NOVELIST  
TO HELP ME  
SAVE MY  
BREATH.



THIS CAN  
HAPPEN  
WHEN  
LAUNDERING  
FABRIC  
TO WHICH  
COLOURED  
INK HAS  
ADHERED.

NEXT,  
THAT  
BLUE  
SMUDGE  
ON YOUR  
SLEEVE.

AND  
LASTLY...



FIRST,  
YOU HAVE  
A LARGE  
WRITER'S  
CALLUS ON  
THE MIDDLE  
FINGER  
OF YOUR  
RIGHT  
HAND.

AND  
ITS SHAPE  
DIFFERS FROM  
THAT OF THOSE  
WHO DRAW OR  
PRINT...IN OTHER  
WORDS, IT GOES  
TO SHOW JUST  
HOW MUCH  
YOU WRITE.



ONLY  
A WRITER  
WOULD DO  
SOMETHING  
LIKE THAT,  
HAM?

PEARL...  
INDIA...  
SECRET  
ROOM...  
SIGN.



...YOU  
HAVE MADE  
A HABIT OF  
NOTING ON  
YOUR CUFFS  
WITH PENCIL  
STORY IDEAS  
AS THEY  
STRIKE YOU  
SO YOU  
DO NOT  
FORGET.



IT SEEMS  
THIS MANOR  
IS BURSTING  
WITH THE  
FRAGRANCE  
OF A WEIRD  
MYSTERY  
THAT WILL  
RELIEVE MY  
TEDIUM.

WELL  
THEN, NOW  
THAT I'VE  
RELIEVED  
YOU OF ANY  
SUSPICIONS  
TOWARD ME,  
WOULD YOU  
UNTIE ME AT  
ONCE?



AMAZING...  
YOU'RE LIKE  
DOCTOR  
BELL, WHO  
WAS ONCE  
MY PRO-  
FESSOR.

OB-  
SERVING  
HUMAN  
BEINGS  
IS MY  
HOBBY,  
YOU  
SEE.



I  
SEE...

I FIND IT  
ALL VERY  
CURIOUS  
INDEED.

—THAT  
COVERS EVERY-  
THING WHICH  
TOOK PLACE  
FROM THE TIME  
OF THE FIRST  
MURDER UNTIL  
THE BUTLER WHO  
SUMMONED YOU  
WAS KILLED.

VERY  
WELL.  
LET US  
MAKE FOR  
THE WINE  
CELLAR  
BELOW.

MAY I  
EXAMINE  
THE  
CORPSES  
FIRST?

THEY WILL  
SPEAK TO ME  
OF THE BARE  
FACTS MOST  
ELEGANTLY.



EH?!



PLEASE  
CARRY EACH  
BODY TO A  
SEPARATE  
ROOM.



STOP!



THE  
19  
DATE  
5/10/00

AND IN  
A WINE  
CELLAR,  
THE SCENT  
OF WINE IS  
ESPECIALLY  
STRONG...

SO  
WOULD  
YOU BE  
KIND  
ENOUGH  
TO LEND  
US THREE  
ROOMS,  
EARL  
PHANTOM-  
HIVE?

.....  
ALL  
RIGHT.



WHY  
I ASK  
WHY?

EVEN  
THE VARIOUS  
SCENTS OF  
A CASE MAY  
YIELD CLUES.  
IF THE CORPSES  
ARE LAID OUT  
TOGETHER,  
THEIR INDIVIDUAL  
SMELLS WILL  
MINGLE AND  
BE CONTAMI-  
NATED.



OH...  
I THINK  
THE PREVIOUS  
EARL'S CLOTHES  
WOULD BE TOO  
SMALL FOR YOU.  
LET ME LEND  
YOU SOMETHING  
FROM THE  
LATE BUTLER'S  
WARDROBE.

MY LORD,  
WOULD YOU  
PERMIT  
ME TO  
CHANGE MY  
CLOTHES  
IN THE  
INTERIM?

PLEASE  
FOLLOW  
ME, IF  
YOU  
WOULD.



YOU LOT,  
TAKE EACH  
CORPSE TO  
A ROOM OF  
ITS OWN.

YES,  
SIR.



YEAH.  
...BUT...

HE SHOWS  
UP OUTTA  
NOWHERE  
AND THEN  
STARTS  
ACTIN' LIKE  
HE OWNS  
THE PLACE!

HE'S  
A VICAR,  
BUT HE  
ACTS LIKE  
A POLICE-  
MAN.

AN  
ODD  
DUCK,  
HE IS.



WHAT  
IS WITH  
THAT  
GUY?



HRN?

WHY IS  
THAT?



...I  
CAN'T HELP  
FEELING LIKE  
HE'LL WORK  
THIS ALL OUT  
FOR SURE.



...I  
FEEL LIKE IT'S  
OKAY FOR US  
TO TRUST  
THAT MAN.

I CAN'T  
REALLY  
SAY WHY,  
BUT...



I MUST  
AGREE.



AND  
REALLY  
IF YA  
TRUST  
PEOPLE  
SO EASY,  
YOU'RE  
GONNA GET  
BURNED,  
KID.







**Black Butler**



I FEEL  
LIKE IT'S  
DEAD FOR  
US TO  
TRUST  
THAT  
MAN.

I DON'T  
WANT TO  
KNOW THAT.



—22—  
GENTLEMAN,  
LET'S GO TO  
THE PLACE  
WHERE THEY  
WERE MURDERED.  
BUT...

... THIS FELLA  
MATERIALISED  
OUTTA THIN  
AIR, AND NOW  
HE'S PULLIN'  
THIS WHOLE  
HIGH-'N'-  
MIGHTY ACT...  
WHO IS THIS  
CLOWN?

RIGHT,  
THEN!

SHALL WE TAKE A  
CLOSER LOOK AT  
THE CORPSES IN  
THE ORDER THEY  
WERE MURDERED?



Chapter 16

*At night: The Butler, Dispensable*







HERE WE HAVE A VERY EXPENSIVE-LOOKING POCKET WATCH, BUT THERE ARE NUMEROUS SCRATCHES AROUND THE KEY WIND.

ONLY A TERRIBLE BOOR OR A DRUNKARD WOULD DO SUCH A THING, DON'T YOU AGREE?



WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT?

THIS MAN WAS NONE TOO PLEASANT WHEN HE WAS DRUNK, WAS HE?

OH, IT WAS QUITE CLEAR THE MINUTE I SAW THIS.



I DETECT AN EVER-SO-SLIGHT SCENT OF THE SEA...



AND THE PURGENT COLOUR OF ALCOHOL IS PROOF THAT HE WAS DRINKING SPIRITS OF CONSIDERABLE STRENGTH RIGHT UP TILL THE MOMENT OF HIS DEATH

...OH?



WHAT IS IT?



AH,  
PROFESSOR,  
WOULD YOU  
HAPPEN TO  
CARRY  
A HAND-  
KERCHIEF?

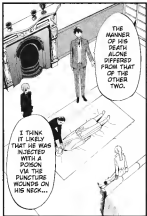




AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH, THE ONLY ENTRANCE TO THE ROOM WAS LOCKED, CREATING A PERFECT LOCKED ROOM SCENARIO.



I SEE ...





YEAH,  
JEREMY'S POWERS  
OF OBSERVATION  
ARE QUITE  
EXTRAORDINARY,  
SO HE MIGHT  
NOTICE SOME-  
THING WE  
MISSED IN  
THERE.



WHY  
I TAKE  
A LOOK  
AT THE  
ROOM IN  
WHICH HE  
MET HIS  
FATHER?

AAA,  
LET ME  
SHOW  
YOU.



HUH?



HM?



RIGHT  
BEHIND  
YOU!



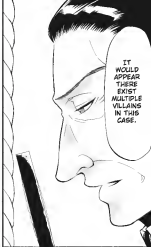
JEREMY?

THAT  
OLD  
MAN  
ISN'T  
WITH  
US!





!!



IT  
WOULD  
APPEAR  
THERE  
EXIST  
MULTIPLE  
VILLAINS  
IN THIS  
CASE.



AND  
SECURING  
THE LATTER  
OUGHT TO  
BE OUR  
FIRST  
PRIORITY  
TO PREVENT  
ANY MORE  
LOSS OF  
LIFE.

CATCHING  
LORD  
SIEMENS'S  
KILLER WILL  
BE SIMPLE  
ENOUGH, BUT  
CATCHING  
MISTER  
PHELPS'S  
KILLER WILL  
BE RATHER  
DIFFICULT  
WORK.



SO  
THAT'S  
HOW  
IT IS  
AFTER  
ALL...

THERE  
ARE TWO  
CONDITIONS  
WHICH MUST  
BE MET IN  
ORDER FOR  
US TO  
CAPTURE  
PHELPS'S  
KILLER.

THE  
FIRST  
IS TO  
WAIT  
FOR  
NIGHT -  
FALL.  
THE  
SECOND  
IS...

WHAT  
ARE YOU  
TALKING  
ABOUT?

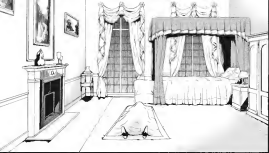
ANY-  
HOW, NO  
PERSONS  
WILL BE  
ABLE TO  
GET OUT  
OF THE  
HANGER  
IN THIS  
STORM.

MY  
COOPER-  
ATION?

YES,  
YOURS.

...YOUR  
COOPERATION,  
EARL PHAN-  
TOMIIVE.







Thank you,  
Professor...

ARE  
YOU ALL  
RIGHT?  
WHY DO  
WE NOT  
TAKE A  
LITTLE  
BREAK  
OUT-  
SIDE?



FORGIVE  
ME...TO SEE  
SEBASTIAN'S  
CORPSE YET  
AGAIN...

...IS MUCH  
TOO HARD  
FOR ME TO  
BEAR...



THE  
BUTLER  
WAS  
KILLED  
MOST  
SIMPLY?

HEHEHE!

DON'T  
YOU JUST  
STRIP THE  
BUTLER'S  
CORPSE  
WITHOUT  
SO MUCH  
AS BLINK-  
ING?



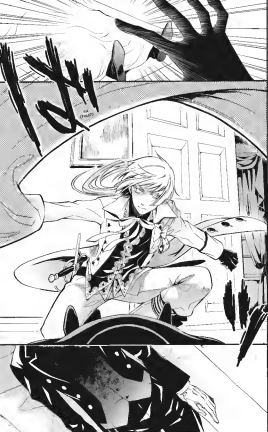
YES.

I'VE  
SEEN QUITE  
ENOUGH.

IS  
THAT  
IT?











CAN  
THAT OLD GUY  
REALLY CATCH  
WHOEVER DID  
THIS?







YES.  
MISTER  
SEBASTIAN  
GREW  
LOTS OF  
HERBS...

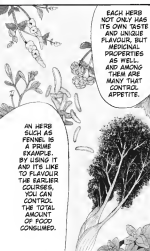


YOU  
HAVE  
AN HERB  
GARDEN  
HERE.  
DON'T  
YOU?



BUT IF WE  
SERVE THAT  
AS THE  
MAIN DISH,  
THE YOUNG  
MASTER'D  
COMPLETELY  
LOSE FACE.

WE'VE  
ONLY GOT  
A BUNCH  
BEANS AND  
FLOUR. ALL  
THAT'S GOOD  
FOR IS MAYBE  
BEAN SOUP.



EACH HERB  
NOT ONLY HAS  
ITS OWN TASTE  
AND UNIQUE  
FLAVOUR, BUT  
MEDICINAL  
PROPERTIES  
AS WELL.  
AND AMONG  
THEM ARE  
MANY THAT  
CONTROL  
APPETITE.



HERBS  
WOULD  
PROVE A  
GREAT  
HELP!

EXCEL-  
LENT!

AN HERB  
SUCH AS  
FENNEL IS  
A PRIME  
EXAMPLE.  
BY USING IT  
AND ITS LIKE  
TO FLAVOUR  
THE EARLIER  
COURSES,  
YOU CAN  
CONTROL  
THE TOTAL  
AMOUNT  
OF FOOD  
CONSUMED.



IT'S NOT  
LIKE HERBS  
BEAR FRUIT,  
SO HOW'D  
THAT FILL  
A BELLY?







YES,  
I SEE.  
THAT IS  
QUITE  
PECULIAR.



MISS  
IRENE HAS  
A BOTTLE  
FULL OF  
DARK RED  
LIQUID IN  
HER POS-  
SESSION,  
SHE DOES.

AND  
WHEN YOUNG  
MASTER AND  
THE OTHER  
GUESTS  
SAW MASTER  
PHELPS'S  
CORPSE, THEY  
MENTIONED  
VAMPIRES.



I THOUGHT  
THAT MAYBE  
HER UNAGING  
BEAUTY COMES  
FROM HER  
BEING A  
VAMPIRE...



ALSO,  
IT SEEMS  
THAT MISS  
IRENE IS  
ACTUALLY  
TWELVE  
YEARS  
OLDER  
THAN  
MASTER  
KEANE.

***TWELVE  
YEARS!?***



THAT  
KINDA  
THING  
ONLY  
HAPPENS  
IN FAIRY  
TALES.

IF SHE'S  
A VAMPIRE,  
SHE COULD  
PASS  
THROUGH  
WALLS AND  
STUFF,  
RIGHT?





THAT  
WAS  
SOOO  
TASTY!

ANNN,  
I'M  
STUFFED  
TO THE  
GILLS!



THE  
HAMBURG  
STEAK WASN'T  
PATTY, SO I  
FELT LIKE I  
COULD JUST  
KEEP PUTTING  
THEM AWAY!

AS ONE  
MIGHT  
EXPECT  
FROM THE  
PHANTOMHIVE  
HOUSE, THE  
MEAT IN ITS  
KITCHENS IS  
IN A CLASS  
BY ITSELF!

YOU  
DO ME  
A GREAT  
HONOUR  
WITH YOUR  
KIND  
WORDS,  
EARL  
GREY.



WELL,  
NOW THAT OUR  
APPETITES HAVE  
BEEN APPEASED,  
WOULDN'T YOU  
SAY IT'S ABOUT  
TIME YOU STOPPED  
TEASING US AND  
EXPLAINED ALL  
THE FACTS OF  
THE CASE,  
VICARY?





...IF YOU  
WOULD  
PLEASE  
REMOVE  
YOUR  
CLOTHES.



W  
H  
A  
A  
T  
!!?

LISTEN WELL, MY LIPS.

YOU  
MUST NOT  
SHUTTER  
IN THE  
SLIGHTEST

YOU MUST  
NOT LITTER  
A SOUND.

SHUT YOUR  
EYES AND SIT  
STILL UNTIL  
I GIVE YOU  
THE WORD...

...THE  
"BAND OF  
DEATH"  
WILL BIND  
YOU FASTER  
THAN THE  
EYE CAN  
SEE.

IF  
YOU DO  
NOT...

HOWEVER, AS  
WE CANNOT SAY  
"FROM WHENCE  
HE WILL COME,"  
PLEASE BE ON  
YOUR GUARD.

— IS  
HOW WE  
PUT IT,  
BUT...



I AM CERTAIN  
THE COUNTRY  
WILL COME TO  
THE EARL'S RES  
ONCE AGAIN  
TONIGHT AND  
THERE, WE SHALL  
TAKE HIM BY  
SURPRISE AND  
CAPTURE HIM.  
FEAR NOT, ALL  
WILL BE WELL.  
THE VILLAIN  
IS SURE TO  
APPEAR...

WAS IT  
EXACTLY  
DOES  
MASTER  
JEREMY  
HAVE  
UP HIS  
SLEEVE?



WAS IT  
EXACTLY  
DOES  
MASTER  
JEREMY  
HAVE  
UP HIS  
SLEEVE?





**NOW!  
GET  
AWAY!!**



**YOU'RE  
MINE!!**



**DOGA  
GROGRO**



HE IS MY  
PRECIOUS  
WITNESS.

WAAA—!!

I CAN'T  
HAVE  
YOU  
KILLING  
HIM!

ALL  
THE  
CH  
NO  
OFFICIALS

TH—

THIS...  
IS THE  
KILLER  
!?



**Black Butler**



TH—



**THIS  
IS THE  
KILLER  
...?**





CHAPTER 47

*At midnight : The Butler, Contemplative*







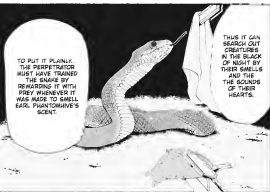




AS WEAK AS  
A SNAKE'S  
VISION  
MAY BE,  
ITS GENCE  
OF SNEEL  
AND HEARING  
ARE HIGHLY  
EVOLVED IN  
COMPENGA-  
TION.



IT MAY  
BE HARD  
TO BELIEVE,  
BUT IT  
REALLY DID  
COME AFTER  
THE YOUNG  
LADY BY  
VIRTUE OF  
HER SIMPLY  
WEARING  
THE EARL'S  
CLOTHES.



TO PUT IT PLAINLY...  
THE PERPETRATOR  
MUST HAVE TRAINED  
THE SNAKE BY  
REWARDING IT WITH  
PREY WHENEVER IT  
WAS MADE TO SMELL  
EARL PHANTOMHIVE'S  
SCENT.

THUS IT CAN  
SEARCH OUT  
CREATURES  
IN THE BLACK  
OF NIGHT BY  
THEIR SMELLS  
AND THE  
SOUNDS  
OF THEIR  
HEARTS.



IF A SNAKE  
IS THE MURDER  
WEAPON, KEYS  
AND ALIBIS NO  
LONGER HOLD  
ANY WEIGHT.



AS  
FOR UNIQUE  
TRAITS, IT IS  
THE FASTEST  
LAND SNAKE  
IN THE WORLD  
AND EXCELS  
AT CLIMBING  
TREES.

A  
PERFECT  
SNAKE  
FOR ANY  
ASSASSI-  
NATION  
PLOT.



THIS IS  
A "BLACK  
MAMBA,"  
WHICH  
INHABITS  
SOUTHERN  
AFRICA.  
ITS VENOM  
CONTAINS  
EXCEEDINGLY  
POTENT  
NEURO-  
TOXINS.

THOSE  
WHO RECEIVE  
ITS BITE ARE  
SURE TO DIE  
WITHIN AN  
HOUR.



AND THAT  
NIGHT, MY  
BEDROOM  
WAS BEING  
USED BY...



NOW I GET  
IT...THE EARL  
NOT SLEEPING  
IN HIS OWN  
ROOM WAS AN  
UNEXPECTED  
DEVELOPMENT  
FOR THE  
ONE BEHIND  
ALL THIS!



IT  
HAD NO  
WAY OF  
KNOWING  
WHETHER  
OR NOT  
ITS VICTIM  
WAS EARL  
PHANTOM-  
HIVE.

—BUT  
A SNAKE  
IS STILL  
JUST A  
SNAKE,  
AFTER  
ALL.

SURVIVING  
THAT IT WOULD  
DEFINITELY  
MAKE ANOTHER  
APPEARANCE  
ONCE IT GOT  
HUNGRY AGAIN.  
WE STUCK  
AROUND AND  
SURE ENOUGH  
IT DID JUST  
THAT.

**PATRICK  
PHELPS!**



WAH!  
HEY...

AT  
LEAST  
PUT ON  
A PAIR OF  
PANTS OR  
SOME-  
THING!!

I AM  
GLAD.

YOU  
ARE  
SAFE.

ISN'T  
THAT  
SO,  
RAN-  
MAO?

AND IF  
HE'D GONE  
AND DIED  
ON US, WE  
WOULD BE  
IN A RIGHT  
PINCH!

YES,  
TOO!

IF THAT  
HADN'T  
BEEN THE  
CASE,  
LORD EARL  
WOULDN'T  
HAVE BEEN  
ABLE TO  
ODDSE THE  
AWFUL  
SNAKE,  
RIGHT?

WHAT  
A RELIEF  
SHE WAS  
ABLE TO  
PUT ON  
YOUR  
CLOTHES  
AND WAS  
WILLING TO  
STAND  
IN FOR  
YOU, MY  
LORD.



IT WAS CON-  
VENIENT  
SINCE  
IT WAS  
ABLE TO  
HIDE ALL  
OF WHAT  
LITTLE  
THERE  
IS OF YOU.



TO  
GET BACK  
TO THE  
SUBJECT...!  
YOU HAD ME  
WEAR THE  
BUTLER'S  
COAT TO  
DISGUISE  
MY SMELL,  
THEN?



THE MOST  
EFFICIENT  
APPROACH IN  
THAT CASE  
WOULD BE  
TO BRIBE A  
PRIVATELY  
OPERATED  
FREIGHTER,  
I'D SAY.



HAVING  
WORKED AS  
A SHIP'S  
SURGEON ON  
AN AFRICAN  
ROUTE, I CAN  
TELL YOU ALL  
CARGO IS  
THOROUGHLY  
EXAMINED  
WITHOUT  
EXCEPTION.



AND WHEN  
SPEAKING  
OF AFRICAN  
IMPORTS,  
GOLD AND  
DIAMONDS  
COME  
FIRST TO  
MIND...







I  
HAVE  
AN  
ALIBI  
!!

H-HE'S  
RIGHT!  
WHAT  
ABOUT THE  
TIME OF  
SIEMENS'S  
DEATH?



STILL,  
ASSUMING HE'S  
GUILTY JUST  
'COS HE DEALS  
WITH AFRICA IS  
A BIT BRUTAL  
OF US, DON'T  
YOU THINK?



THAT ALIBI  
MAY NOT  
BE MUCH  
OF ONE TO  
BEGIN WITH.



WHAT  
DO YOU  
MEAN?



EH...!?



WHAAA  
-!?



WHAT IF  
THE CORPSE  
THE BUTLER  
AND HIS  
COMPANIONS  
DISCOVERED  
WAS NOT A  
CORPSE AT  
ALL?



...I  
WAS  
UNABLE  
TO SEE  
THAT  
MUCH  
IN THE  
DARK,  
SO...

WELL...



DID  
YOU MAKE  
SURE TO  
VERIFY HIS  
WOUNDS?

BUT I  
COULD NOT  
DETECT  
A PULSE,  
AND HIS  
CHEST WAS  
BLOODY AS  
WELL...



THE ONE  
WHICH MADE  
HER APPEAR  
AS THOUGH  
SHE WERE  
DEAD, ONLY  
TO REVIVE  
LATER?

IS EVERYONE  
FAMILIAR  
WITH THE  
POTION  
JULIET DRANK  
IN ROMEO AND  
JULIET?

WHA  
—!?

OH,  
BUT YES.  
IT DOES  
INDEED  
EXIST.

NO!

A POISON  
THAT MAKES  
SUCH A THING  
POSSIBLE.

IF IT IS  
PURIFIED IN  
A CERTAIN WAY,  
ONE CAN ENTER  
A STATE OF  
APPARENT DEATH  
BY CONSUMING IT,  
LIKE THE FAIR  
JULIET.

THERE IS A  
SUBSTANCE THAT  
HAS BEEN RECENTLY  
DISCOVERED CALLED  
TETRODOTOXIN.

AH, THE  
PROFESSOR  
TO THE RESCUE  
ONCE MORE.  
YOU SEEM  
TO BE UP ON  
THE LATEST  
RESEARCH,  
I SEE.

TETRODO-  
TOXIN IS A  
NEUROTOXIN  
POSSESSED  
BY BLOWFISH  
AND OCTOPY.



NOW  
LET ME  
ASK YOU  
THIS.

WHY  
WOULD  
SOMEONE  
WHO WAS  
STABBED  
TO DEATH  
SMELL OF  
POISON?



I NOTED  
A SLIGHT  
SCENT OF  
THE SEA  
WHEN I  
INSPECTED  
SIEMENS'S  
CORPSE.

THAT WAS  
PROBABLY  
THE RESULT  
OF THE  
POISON  
BEING  
DISTILLED  
FROM  
BLOWFISH  
VENOM.



YES.  
HE DRANK  
THE POISON  
HIMSELF AND  
PRETENDED TO  
BE DEAD AFTER  
DISCARDING  
THE VIAL.

THAT WAY,  
IT WOULD  
NOT MATTER  
TO WHICH  
ROOM HE  
WAS LED.



!



...SO IT  
WAS ALL A  
PERFORM-  
ANCE.



BUT WHEN  
I INSPECTED  
THE CORPSE,  
HE HAD INDEED  
DIED OF STAB  
WOUNDS.

EH?



SOMEONE  
WITH NO  
MEDICAL  
KNOWLEDGE  
WOULD NOT  
WANT OR THINK  
TO EXAMINE  
A CORPSE'S  
WOUNDS, SO IT  
SHOULD HAVE  
BEEN ENOUGH  
TO FOOL  
EVERYONE.

I OUGHT  
TO HAVE  
INSPECTED  
THE CORPSE  
BETTER.



JUDGING  
FROM THE  
SITUATION, THE  
PERPETRATOR  
MIGHT HAVE  
ATTEMPTED  
TO FRAME  
THE EARL.



HE ONLY  
INTENDED  
TO FAKE  
HIS DEATH  
BUT ENDED  
UP BEING  
MURDERED  
FOR REAL.

HE SEEMED  
TO GO WILD  
WHEN UNDER  
THE INFLUENCE  
OF ALCOHOL,  
SO THE  
PERPETRATOR  
MIGHT HAVE  
SUGGESTED  
IT BY SAYING,  
"LET'S  
SURPRISE  
EVERYONE."



HOWEVER, WE  
DO NOT KNOW  
WHETHER  
LORD SIEMENS  
WAS INVOLVED  
AS WELL.

ME?



HE MUST  
HAVE BEEN  
USED THEN  
MURDERED  
TO KEEP  
HIM FROM  
TALKING.



THIS WAS  
THE FIRST  
TIME THAT HE  
AND I HAD  
MET. HE HAD  
NO REASON  
TO FRAME  
ME.



THE  
PERPETRATOR  
WOULD HAVE  
HAD MANY  
OPPORTUNITIES  
TO APPROACH  
THE LORD AT  
A DINNER  
BUFFET.

POOR  
MAN.





I COULD  
ASK EACH AND  
EVERY ONE OF  
YOU ABOUT WHAT  
YOU DISCUSSED  
WITH SIEMENS,  
BUT...

THEN  
ANYBODY  
COULD HAVE  
GOZIED UP  
TO HIM!



HUMAN  
BEINGS  
LIE.

...I  
WON'T.



NO ONE  
ELSE  
WOULD  
HAVE A  
VALID  
ALBI  
EITHER!



LIKE  
IN THE  
FIRE.

IT'S SIMPLE.  
YOU DISCARD  
IT WHERE NO  
ONE WILL  
THINK TO  
LOOK.



IF HE  
INGESTED  
POISON,  
WHERE  
DID THE  
BOTTLE  
GO?

YES,  
YOU MIGHT  
BE LYING  
NOW TOO.



YOU  
WOULD  
ONLY  
NEED TO  
RETRIEVE  
IT ONCE  
THINGS  
HAD  
QUIETED  
DOWN...

PEOPLE  
WOULDN'T  
LOOK FOR  
IT THERE.



NOW I  
REMEMBER,  
THERE WAS  
A LOTTA  
FIREWOOD  
IN THE  
HEARTH  
THEN.

JUST THIS  
RECORD  
KING  
HOTT

YES  
IT IS.



...DUE TO  
SEBASTIAN.

BUT  
EVERYTHING  
DID NOT GO  
AS PLANNED.



**B  
L  
L  
!!**



I SEE!

THE  
BUTLER  
CAME TO  
STOKE THE  
FIRE!!



...RETRIEVED  
THE EVIDENCE,  
AND RETURNED  
TO YOUR OWN  
ROOM.

YOUR ALIBI  
WOULD BE  
INVALIDATED  
IF PROOF OF  
THE STAGED  
DEATH IS  
FOUND.

YOU KILLED  
SEBASTIAN  
OUT OF  
HASTE...



!!!



AH, YES.  
WE HAVE  
LOOKED.

BUT  
NOT IN  
THE FIRE-  
PLACE.



THEN  
WHOEVER  
HAS IT  
IS THE  
KILLER!!

I HAVE  
NOTHING  
OF THE  
SORT IN  
MY POS-  
SESSION!  
YOU'VE  
LOOKED  
ALREADY!



TH-  
THESE  
CHARGES  
ARE ALL  
FALSE.

YOU  
WON'T  
FIND  
ANY-  
THING  
HERE  
...!



THEN  
PROVE  
IT TO  
US!



IT'S THE  
BEST PLACE  
TO HIDE SOME-  
THING. IT'S  
NOT AS IF YOUR  
ROOM WOULD  
BE SEARCHED  
NUMEROUS  
TIMES.

YOU ONLY  
NEED TO  
RETRIEVE  
WHAT YOU HID  
THERE AND  
DISCARD IT  
AFTER THE  
INSPECTION.



AH  
...!!



LET'S  
SEE IF  
YOU HAVE  
SOMETHING  
HIDDEN  
HERE OR  
NOT!!



BUT I CAN'T TELL WHAT THESE FRAGMENTS ONCE MADE UP...







STILL,  
IF THE PLAN  
MOVES FORWARD  
AGAIN, WOODLEY  
COMPANY, WHICH  
CLAIMS TO HAVE  
THE LATEST  
TECHNOLOGIES,  
WILL SUFFER  
WITHOUT A  
DOUBT.



HOWEVER, MISTER ROZE, THE AUTOCRATIC PRESIDENT, WAS RECENTLY MURDERED, PUTTING THE PLAN TEMPORARILY ON HOLD.

DEWEERS, THE LARGEST IN THE DIAMOND INDUSTRY, AND OUR COMPANY, WHICH OWNS SOME OF THE WORLD'S LEADING TECHNOLOGY, TO ENTER THE JEWELRY MARKET TOGETHER.



HOWEVER, MISTER ROZE, THE AUTOCRATIC PRESIDENT, WAS RECENTLY MURDERED, PUTTING THE PLAN TEMPORARILY ON HOLD.

DEWEENE, THE LARGEST IN THE DIAMOND INDUSTRY, AND OUR COMPANY, WHICH OWNS SOME OF THE WORLD'S LEADING TECHNOLOGY, TO ENTER THE JEWELRY MARKET TOGETHER.

WHAT A SHODDY PLAN IT WAS.



SO YOU  
PLANNED  
TO KILL ME  
THIS TIME.

BY HIM...THE QUEEN'S...

**I DID  
NOT  
DO IT.  
BELIEVE  
ME!!**

**I WAS  
FRAMED!!**

**I DID  
NOT  
DO IT.  
BELIEVE  
ME!!**

**I WAS  
FRAMED!!**









WHAT IN BLAZES!!?  
SO YOU  
WERE  
DOUBTING  
IRENE ALL  
ALONG!?

GRIMSBY!  
PLEASE WAIT.  
THAT IS...



THE  
PROBABLE  
CONTENTS  
OF THAT  
BOTTLE—

AND  
ONCE



THE MAID  
DISCOVERED  
A BOTTLE  
OF DEEP  
RED LIQUID  
IN MISS  
IRENE'S  
ROOM.

AND SHE  
WONDERED  
IF THE EVER-  
YOUTHFUL  
AND LOVELY  
MISS IRENE,  
WHO DOES  
NOT APPEAR  
TO HAVE AGED  
A DAY, WAS  
A VAMPIRE.



A  
LEAF?

AH!  
THAT'S RED  
PERILLA!



IT'S  
THIS,  
ISN'T  
IT?



THE  
EXTRACT THAT IS  
PRODUCED FROM  
BOILING IT DOWN  
IS WHAT KEEPS  
YOU LOOKING SO  
YOUNG...NO?

RED PERILLA  
IS A KNOWN  
ANTIAGING  
SUBSTANCE.







THE SKY WAS  
MELLANLY  
CLEAR AS IF  
THE FETTERING  
DAY AND ITS  
BOMBING-ON HAD  
ALL BEEN A LIE.  
THE ORCHESTRA  
OF TORNADOES  
RAIN PLAYED  
BY THE HANDS  
OF DEVILS HAD  
CHANGED TO  
THE SWEET  
WHISTLING OF  
LITTLE BIRDS.



AND  
THIS BANN  
BECKON ON  
THE NIGHT OF  
DEVILRY AT  
THE BRIST  
MARCH...  
AND EACH OF  
US RETURNED  
FROM WHENCE  
WE CAME.



HOWEVER,  
STILL THE THIRST  
SENSE OF WREATH  
REMAINED IN MY  
HEART LIKE A BLOT,  
A LONG GLOW  
FLOATING IN THE  
CLEAR SKY...





... I FEEL  
AS THOUGH MY  
VISION IS BEING  
FORGOTTEN...

AS  
THOUGH I'VE  
OVERLOOKED  
SOMETHING  
MAJOR...



WHY IS IT  
THE CASE  
HAS BEEN  
SOLVED,  
YET...



MR. JEREMY?



THANK  
YOU  
VERY  
MUCH



YOU  
REALLY WERE  
A GREAT HELP  
TO ME, MR. JEREMY. THANK  
YOU SO MUCH  
FOR EVERY-  
THING.



NO,  
THAT'S  
NOT...

THAT  
LONG  
FACE IS  
NOT THE  
ONE OF A  
MAN WHO  
IS GLAD  
TO SEE  
THE END  
OF THE  
CASE.



HE'S  
SPEAKING  
FRENCH!



Professor.



YOU  
HAVE  
MY  
THANKS  
AS  
WELL.

I DOUBT  
WE SHALL  
MEET AGAIN,  
BUT I DO  
HOPE THE  
FUTURE IS  
KIND TO  
YOU.



Thank you for  
taking care of the  
young master.





WAIT!  
WAIT!  
WAIT!  
JUST  
NOW!



AH...!



PLEASE.  
DO TAKE CARE  
OF THE YOUNG  
MASTER.



WAIT!!



IT'S  
JUST NOT  
POSSIBLE...

HOW  
COULD  
THAT BE?  
HE WAS  
WELL AND  
TRULY  
DEAD.



WHEN SOMEONE  
ASSAULTED  
THEIR OWN  
OWN TOWN  
MURDER  
AND THE WAY  
HE BECAME  
AN OUTCAST  
LIFE HE  
EVERYWHAT  
THE FUTURE  
WOULD  
BRING

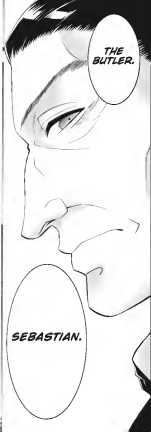
AND  
THOUGH  
IT SEEMS  
IMPOSSIBLE  
WHAT VIKOR  
JEREMY  
SAID JUST  
NOW WAS A  
REFERENCE  
TO THAT  
TIME...

HOW  
THAT  
THINGS  
WENT  
DOWN  
EVERY  
THING  
HE DID  
HAD  
FOOD



PLEASE  
RETURN  
TO THE  
MANOR!!  
STRAIGHT-  
AWAY!!







PROFES-  
SOR.

*To be continued in* **Black Butler** ④



# ➤ Black Butler ➤

黑執事



## Downstairs

Wakana Haduki

SuKe

7

Saito Torino



Takeshi Kuma



Yana Toboso



## Special Thanks

Yana' s Mother

Sakuya

for You!



## Translation Notes

### **INSIDE FRONT AND BACK COVERS** **Mr. Séban**

In Japan, there is a magician named Mr. Séban, who calls himself a "super-magician." The name Séban is a combination of the words "magic" and "trick."

### **PAGE 7**

#### **Le Fatale Carmilla**

Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu's novella *Carmilla* is a classic of vampire fiction. Published in 1872, the novella about the vampirous Carmilla, who preys on a vulnerable young woman, was published prior to Bram Stoker's *Dracula*.

### **PAGE 18**

#### **Baritsu**

Baritsu is a fictional martial art used by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle to explain how his great detective Sherlock Holmes survived his apparent death. It has been suggested that the term is a mishearing of "baritsu," a mixed martial art which combined schools of jujitsu to create a gentlemanly art of self-defence for use in an urban setting, founded by Londoner Edward William Barton-Wright in 1859.

### **PAGE 43**

#### **Albert chain**

A Victorian gentleman's watch chain popularised by Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's Royal Consort. It features a bar on one end and which is slipped through the buttonhole of a man's vest, while the other end has a swivel hook for attaching a pocket watch,

which is then kept in a pocket at the front of the vest, leaving the often elaborate chain and its decorative bob on display.

### **PAGE 83**

#### **Jeremy Bamber**

It is possible that the vicar's name and appearance are nods to two of the quintessential actors to play Conan Doyle's detective, Sherlock Holmes. Jeremy Burt was a British actor best remembered for his portrayal of Holmes in a British television series made between 1984 and 1994. Basil Rathbone was another British actor whose runs as Holmes in films between 1939 and 1946 are among the most memorable of his roles.

### **PAGE 84**

#### **Round brilliant-cut**

The Belgian diamond cutter Marcel Tolkowsky is acknowledged as the father of what is known as the round brilliant-cut style of diamond today. The design was created in 1919.

### **PAGE 89**

#### **The Lady of the Lake**

*The Lady of the Lake* is a tale of Arthurian legend, in which the eponymous lady is responsible for granting King Arthur the mythical sword Excalibur. Sir Walter Scott's 1810 poem on the subject provided material for a Gioacchino Rossini opera, *La Donna del Lago*, which premiered in 1819 in Italy.

**PAGE 87**

**Lycium Theatre**

A famous theatre in the West End of London, the present incarnation of the Lycium was opened in 1834 as the Theatre Royal Lycium and English Opera House.

**PAGE 90**

**Doctor Bell**

The Scotsman Doctor Joseph Bell was a private surgeon to Queen Victoria and a famed lecturer in medicine at the University of Edinburgh, where he and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle first met in 1877. Conan Doyle, who was a student at the University in medicine, served Bell as a clerk for a time, later stating that Sherlock Holmes was in part based on his teacher's observant ways. Bell also assisted Scotland Yard on cases, the most notorious of which turned to be the Jack the Ripper murders.

**PAGE 110**

**Hamburg steak**

Hamburg steak, which was then chopped, salt-cured, low-grade meat combined with breadcrumbs and onions and typically eaten by the lower classes, was brought into common parlance in the eighteenth century by sailors who called at the port of Hamburg, Germany, from where the dish derives its name, and places like New York, where the German immigrant population was considerable.

**PAGE 140**

**Murder by snake**

The method by which Miss Phelps is killed recalls the Sherlock Holmes story, "The Adventure of the Speckled Band," first published in 1892. The murder in the story is also a locked room mystery, the victim a young woman who is killed by a snake that climbs down the bell pull in her room.

**Black Butler**



## Yana Toboso

*Author's note*

I've always loved experiments. Now that I'm a mangaka, I have fun every day trying out new techniques and tools. Every day I experiment, thinking "Wouldn't I be able to work more efficiently if I did that? Or wouldn't my work improve?" I do realize my work would get done faster if I worked instead of wasting time experimenting. Thanks to everyone, here is Volume 10!



# Black Giper

YANA TOBOSO





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*A tale of overwhelming psychic powers,  
in which Mr. Ichio, a mysterious man, who  
calls himself a magician, pits himself against  
psychics from all over the world and reveals  
for not the full extent of his powers for an  
\$500,000,000 jackpot in Vegas!*

*...or something.*

# BLACK BUTLER ⑩

---

Yana Toboso

Translation: Tomo Kimura • Lettering: Alexis Eckerman

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This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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